

Naro language

Naro /ˈnɑːroʊ/, also **Nharo**, is a Khoe language spoken in Ghanzi District of Botswana and in eastern Namibia. It is probably the most-spoken of the Tshu–Khwe languages. Naro is a trade language among speakers of different Khoe languages in Ghanzi District. There exists a dictionary.

Contents

Phonology

Dialects

Naro Language Project

Numerals

Bibliography

References

Phonology

Naro has the following consonant inventory, in the IPA of Miller (2011) and the orthography of Visser (2001):^[4]

Naro	
Nharo	
Native to	Botswana, Namibia
Ethnicity	Ncoakhoe
Native speakers	roughly 10,000 (2011) ^[1] 8,000 in Botswana (2014) ^[2] and 1,000 in Namibia (2011) ^[1] about as many L2 speakers in Botswana ^[1]
Language family	<div>Khoe<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kalahari (Tshu–Khwe)<ul style="list-style-type: none">West<ul style="list-style-type: none">Naro</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	nhr
Glottolog	naro1249 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/naro1249) ^[3]

Consonant phonemes of Naro

	Labial	Dental click	Alveolar			Lateral click	Palatal click	Velar	Glottal
			stop	affricate	click				
Aspirate	<i>ph</i> /p ^h /	<i>ch</i> /t ^h /	<i>th</i> /tʰ/	<i>tsh</i> /tsʰ/	<i>qh</i> /!ʰ/	<i>xh</i> /llʰ/	<i>tch</i> /tʃʰ/	<i>kh</i> /kʰ/	
Tenuis	<i>p</i> /p/	<i>c</i> /t/	<i>t</i> /t/	<i>ts</i> /ts/	<i>q</i> /!/	<i>x</i> /ll/	<i>tc</i> /tʃ/	<i>k</i> /k/	
Voiced	<i>b</i> /b/	<i>dc</i> /ɟ/	<i>d</i> /d/	<i>z</i> /dz/	<i>dq</i> /ɟ!/	<i>dx</i> /ɟll/	<i>dtc</i> /ɟʃ/	<i>gh</i> /g/	
Nasal	<i>m</i> /m/	<i>nc</i> /ɲ/	<i>n</i> /n/		<i>nq</i> /ɲ!/	<i>nx</i> /ɲll/	<i>ntc</i> /ɲʃ/		
Glottalized		<i>c´</i> /tʔ/			<i>q´</i> /!ʔ/	<i>x´</i> /llʔ/	<i>tc´</i> /tʃʔ/		
Fricated		<i>cg</i> /lχ/	<i>tg</i> /tχ/	<i>tsg</i> /tsχ/	<i>qg</i> /!χ/	<i>xg</i> /llχ/	<i>tcg</i> /tʃχ/	(<i>kg</i> /kχ/)	
Fricated ejective		<i>cg´</i> /lχʼ/		<i>ts´</i> /tsʼ/	<i>qg´</i> /!χʼ/	<i>xg´</i> /llχʼ/	<i>tcg´</i> /tʃχʼ/	<i>kg´</i> /kχʼ/	
Fricative	<i>f</i> /f/		<i>s</i> /s/					<i>g</i> /x/	<i>h</i> /h/
Flap			<i>r</i> /r/						

Kg and *kg´* only contrast for some speakers: *kx´ám* "mouth" vs. *k´áu* "male". The flap *r* is only found medially except in loan words. An *l* is only found in loans, and is generally substituted by /*r*/ medially and /*n*/ initially. Medial [j] and [w] may be /*i*/ and /*u*/; they occur initially only in *wèé* "all, both" and in *yèè* (an interjection).

Naro has five vowel qualities, *a e i o u*, which may occur long (*aa ee ii oo uu*), nasalized (*ã ẽ ĩ õ ù*), pressed (*a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u*), or combinations of these (*ã* etc.). There are three tones, written *á*, *a*, *à*. Syllables are of the maximal form CVV, where VV is a long vowel, diphthong, or combination of vowel and *m*, and may take two tones: *hṁṁ* "to see"; *hṁṁ a xám* "to smell". The only consonant that can occur finally is *m*, except that long nasal vowels such as *ãã* may surface as [aŋ] ([ŋ] does not otherwise occur). Syllabic /*n*/ also occurs, as in *nna*.

Below is an overview of Naro clicks in both orthography and IPA (Visser 2001). The dental click is represented by *c*, alveolar click by *q*, palatal click by *tc*, and lateral click by *x*. All examples are from Visser (2001).

Naro clicks in orthography and IPA

Orthography	IPA	Example	Orthography	IPA	Example	Orthography	IPA	Example	Orthography	IPA	Example
c	ǀ	cōose 'owl'	q	ǀ	qaò 'rise (sun, moon)'	tc	ǀ	tcúú 'head'	x	ǀǀ	xòà 'cave'
cg	ǀχ	cgàa 'flesh'	qg	ǀχ	qgóé 'to run'	tcg	ǀχ	tcgáí 'eye'	xg	ǀǀχ	xgóà 'angry'
cg'	ǀχ'	cg'òè 'name'	qg'	ǀχ'	qg'áo 'neck'	tcg'	ǀχ'	tcg'ái 'sharp, spicy'	xg'	ǀǀχ'	xg'ari 'to squeeze'
ch	ǀ ^h	cóá 'child'	qh	ǀ ^h	qhàò 'people, tribe, kind'	tch	ǀ ^h	tchàà 'wide'	xh	ǀǀ ^h	xhāya 'West, Namibia'
c'	ǀ ^ʰ	c'áò 'blood'	q'	ǀ ^ʰ	q'óà 'afraid'	tc'	ǀ ^ʰ	tc'ubi 'egg'	x'	ǀǀ ^ʰ	x'áà 'light (n.)'
dc	ǀ	dcoàbà 'spider'	dq	ǀ	dqàne 'chin'	dtc	ǀ	dtcìì 'fat (adj.)'	dx	ǀǀ	dxàí 'cheek'
nc	ǀ	ncòà 'red'	nq	ǀ	nqàrè 'foot'	ntc	ǀ	ntcùú 'black'	nx	ǀǀ	nxào 'joke'

Dialects

Naro is a dialect cluster.

- ǀAmkwe
- ǀAnekwe
- G!inkwe
- !Gingkwe
- G!okwe
- Qabekhoe or Qabekho or !Kabbakwe
- Ts' aokhoe or Tsaukwe or Tsaokhwe
- Tserekwe
- Tsorokwe
- Nǀ hai-ntse' e or Nǀ hai or Ts' ao

and possibly ǀHaba.

Naro Language Project

The Naro Language Project is a project currently being undertaken by the Reformed Church in D'kar that aims to describe and develop an understanding of the Naro language, increase literacy by teaching Naro speakers to read and write their language and translate the Bible into Naro. The project was started in the 1980s. The Naro language project has, as of 2007, translated 70% of the Bible into the Naro language.

Numerals

Below are Naro numerals, from Visser (2001). Only 'one', 'two', and 'three' are native Naro numerals, while the rest have been borrowed from Nama. Orthography is given first, follows by IPA in brackets and then the tones in parentheses (H = *high*, M = *mid*, L = *low*).

- 1. cúí [úí] (HH)
- 2. cáàm [ám] (HL)
- 3. nqoana [!noana] (M.L)

- 4. hàka [hàka] (L.M)
- 5. koro [koro] (M.M)
- 6. nqáné [! náné] (H.H)
- 7. hǒò [hǒò] (HL)
- 8. kaisa [kaisa] (MM.L)
- 9. khòesí [khòesí] (LM.H)
- 10. dìsí [dìsí] (L.H)

Bibliography

- Visser, Hessel (2001) *Naro Dictionary: Naro–English, English–Naro*. Gansi, Botswana: Naro Language Project. ISBN 99912-938-5-X

References

1. Brenzinger, Matthias (2011) "The twelve modern Khoisan languages." In Witzlack-Makarevich & Ernst (eds.), *Khoisan languages and linguistics: proceedings of the 3rd International Symposium, Riezlern / Kleinwalsertal* (Research in Khoisan Studies 29). Cologne: Rüdiger Köppe Verlag.
 2. Naro (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/nhr/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
 3. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Naro" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/naro1249>). *Glottolog* 3.0. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
 4. Visser originally wrote the palatal clicks with a base of ⟨ç⟩, but switched to ⟨tc⟩ to make the language more accessible from English-language typewriters and keyboards.
- The Kuru Naro Language Project (https://web.archive.org/web/20161013023130/http://www.kuru.co.bw/naro_language_Project.html)
 - Naro basic lexicon at the Global Lexicostatistical Database (<http://starling.rinet.ru/cgi-bin/response.cgi?root=new100&morpho=0&basename=new100\ckh\kho&first=0>)

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Naro_language&oldid=954021337"

This page was last edited on 30 April 2020, at 07:46 (UTC).

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.